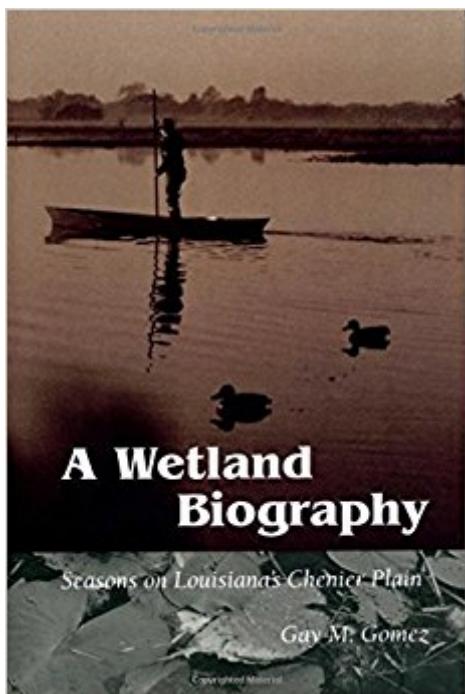


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A Wetland Biography: Seasons On Louisiana's Chenier Plain



Synopsis

Louisiana's Chenier Plain is a 2,200-square-mile region of marshes and oak-covered ridges (cheniers) that stretches along the Gulf of Mexico from Sabine Lake to Vermilion Bay. Its inhabitants, some 6,000 people of Cajun and other ancestries, retain strong economic and cultural ties to the land and its teeming wildlife. They call it paradise...but it is a vulnerable paradise. In this multifaceted study, Gay Gomez explores the interaction of the land, people, and wildlife of the Chenier Plain, revealing both the uniqueness of the region and the challenges it faces. After describing the geography and history of the Chenier Plain, Gomez turns to the lifeways of its people. Drawing on their words and stories, she tells how the chenier dwellers combine modern occupations with traditional pursuits such as alligator and waterfowl hunting, fur trapping, and fishing. She shows how these traditions of wildlife use provide both economic incentives for conservation and a source of personal and place identity. This portrait of a "working wetland" reveals how wildlife use and appreciation can give rise to a stewardship that balances biological, economic, and cultural concerns in species and habitat protection.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Gomez's wonderful book documents the interplay of humans with Louisiana's coastal wetlands, especially the Chenier Plain, through the seasons...An interesting book that should help promote the value and appreciation of wetlands." (Choice 2000-06-01)"This book will appeal to a wide audience, from those who read it for enjoyment to those who use it as a textbook or research tool.... Gomez's

clear, almost lyrical style is a pleasure to read, and the imagery captures the essence of the Chenier Plain." (Robert Gramling, Professor of Sociology and Director, Center for Socioeconomic Research, University of Southwestern Louisiana)

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Excellent research - excellent writing - excellent information. the author clearly loves her subject matter.

I have a house in Louisiana and this is a great book for the area where I live.

I live in Creole, LA. and to read this book was a great experience. I would recommend this book. It explains how we live our lives down in Creole, LA.

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